

RED, BLOND, BLACK AND OLIVE

Created in Collaboration with
Harold Dugan Elgar

Supported by
The Indiana Arts Commission



Red, Blond, Black and Olive

ABOUT THE WORK

Chosen through a competition by a committee of artists, Bloomington citizens and Mayor Francis X. McCloskey, this sculpture is considered the initial achievement of Bloomington's Community Arts Commission. After being situated in the center of Miller-Showers Park for 22 years, *Red, Blond, Black and Olive* was relocated to its current plaza in 2002. Aptly representing the diverse population of Bloomington, the two statues have four faces between them. Each face features a different major world race. Viewed from one side, the faces of an Asiatic woman and African woman gaze at each other. An Indian man and Nordic man are face-to-face on the other side. The piece is meant to promote and celebrate communication across racial lines, and work toward universal understanding among people. The gap between the two columns is as important as the faces themselves. It is the space where conversation takes place, people come together and truths are revealed.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Jean-Paul Darriau was a celebrated Indiana University sculptor and professor. In his lengthy career, his work was presented nationally and internationally at the Guggenheim Museum, the Joseph Hirshhorn collection in Washington D.C., the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, the Denver Art Museum, the Galleria Schneider in Rome and the Smithsonian Institution. Born in 1929 in New York City, to French immigrants, Darriau attended the High School of Music and Art. He received his bachelor's degree from Brooklyn College in 1951 and his M.F.A from the University of Minnesota in 1954. Two Fulbright grants took him to Italy and France where he mastered bronze casting techniques at the Instituto d'Arte in Florence and the Guastini Foundry in Pastoria.

ARTIST: Jean-Paul Darriau

MEDIUM: Indiana Limestone

DEDICATION YEAR: 1980

DID YOU KNOW?

Miller-Showers Park was originally purchased by the City of Bloomington in 1929 for one dollar.

Support from



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
community arts commission

In this place
where breath alone
connects us
we organize the earth:
as cities
lighting up the map
we are the world's
many pulsing hearts,
as families
branching out
till peace breaks out...
we are the human trees
who green the diamond-blue
still burdened planet
blooming in our
Red, Blond, Black, and Olive
skins.

J. P. D.

Detail of poem on sculpture
written by the artist.

City of Bloomington Public Art Trail